Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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73

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-14 EUR-25 TRSE-00 EB-11 PM-07

NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 DODE-00 L-03 CIEP-02 OMB-01

SCEM-02 INT-08 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01

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O 191500Z OCT 73 FM USINT BAGHDAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0596

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 0566

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, PINT, IZ SUBJ: BAGHDAD SITREP

- 1. BPC REP PAWSON FIVEN LETTER FROM MINPET HAMMADI OCT 18 STATING THAT POSTED PRICE BASRA CRUDE INCREASED FROM 2.97 TO 5.061 DOLLARS AS OF OCT 16. MINISTRY STATEMENT SAID INCREASE IN ACCORDANCE DECISIONS KUWAIT MINISTERS MEETING. PAWSON HAS NOTHING OFFICIAL ON 5 PERCENT CUT IN PRODUCTION NOR CURTAILMENT OF SHIPMENTS TO U.S.
- 2. 90 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACTS FOR PIPE FOR STRATEGIC PIPELINE AWARDED TO JAPANESE AND FRENCH FIRMS. NO MENTION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WHICH STILL EXPECTED TO GO TO AMERICAN FIRM.
- 3. OFFICIAL JUMHUR RIYA AND COMMUNIST PAPER CRITICIZED KUWAIT OIL MINISTERS MEETING FOR WEAK DECISIONS OF ARAB REACTIONARIES.
- 4. KOSYGIN VISIT TO CAIRO RECEIVED VERY BRIEF MENTION.
- 5. COMMENT: DESPITE WAR EFFORT, REGIME ATTEMPTING TO MAINTAIN AIR OF NORMALCY. FOR EXAMPLE, SADDAM HUSSEIN MEETING WITH VARIOUS GROUPS TO DISCUSS KURDISH AUTONOMY PROPOSAL. I INTERPRET REGIMES CAUTIOUS POLICY AS DESIGNED NOT TO ALLOW COMMITMENT TO WAR TO DO IRREVOCABLE DAMAGE TO ITS AMBITIOUS ECONOMIC PLANS. HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL

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FRENCH AMBASSADOR AMONG OTHERS TEND TO BELIEVE GOI WAR COMMITMENT

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WILL OVER RIDE RELATIONS WITH WEST AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS. LOWRIE	
CONFIDENTIAL	
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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